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**STRANGE TALES** FEATURING

**THE**

# GOLEM™

THE THING THAT WALKS LIKE A MAN!



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DAY  
FOR A  
DEMI-  
GOD!**

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Stan Lee  
PRESENTS:

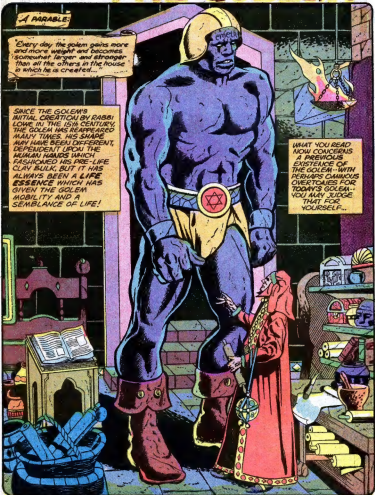
# THE GOLEM!

## A PARABLE:

"Every day the golem gains more and more weight and becomes somewhat larger and stronger than all the others in the house in which he is created..."

SINCE THE GOLEM'S INITIAL CREATION BY RABBI LOWE IN THE 15TH CENTURY, THE GOLEM HAS REAPPEARED MANY TIMES. HIS SHAPE MAY HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT, DEPENDENT UPON THE HUMAN HANDS WHICH FASHIONED HIS PRE-LIFE CLAY BULK, BUT IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A LIFE ESSENCE WHICH HAS GIVEN THE GOLEM MOBILITY AND A SEMBLANCE OF LIFE!

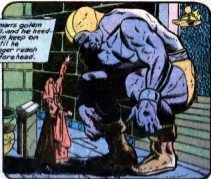
WHAT YOU READ NOW CONCERNS A PREVIOUS EXISTENCE OF THE GOLEM--WITH PERHAPS CAUTIONARY OVERTONES FOR TODAY'S GOLEM--YOU MAY JUDGE THAT FOR YOURSELF...



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"On the golem's forehead is written 'EMETH' [truth]. To return a golem to the earth, one erases the first letter, so the word becomes ALETH [death or 'dead']."

Once, one man's golem grew so tall, and he heedlessly let him keep on growing until he could no longer reach the golem's forehead.



In terror the man ordered the golem to take off his boots...

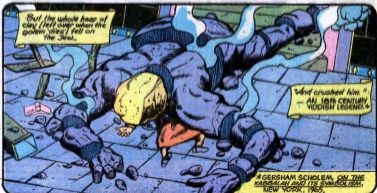


...thinking that when the golem bent down he could reach the forehead...

So it happened—and the first letter was successfully erased...



But the whole heap of clay (left over when the golem 'dies') fell on the Jew...



"Wind crushed him."  
— AN 18TH CENTURY  
WODISH LEGEND.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup>GERSHAM SCHOLEM, ON THE  
KABALAH AND ITS SWARMS,  
NEW YORK, 1955.

In centuries gone, they called the Golem a myth, a creature formed of stone and clay and from the blood of a people's oppression—a moving monolith who rose before the yoke of tyranny—shattered it in his monumental fate—then vanished into the sands of time—there to be almost forgotten—until today!

Now, once more, the Golem rises—summoned from his eons-long sleep to protect those he loves. Now, for the first time in untold decades..... **THE GOLEM WALKS!**

**THE TIME:  
THE PRESENT;**

**THE GOLEM WALKS THE EARTH  
ONCE AGAIN, A CONDENSED  
MOUNTAIN OF POWER SHIELDING  
THOSE WHOM HE LOVES...**

**BUT THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD  
IMPRISON THAT POWER—AND PERVERT  
IT TO THEIR OWN MATE-FILLED PUR-  
POSES! THE WIZARD KABALLA IS ONE  
OF THESE... AND BECAUSE OF HIM...**

**THERE COMES NOW  
RAGING  
FIRE!**



**MIKE FRIEDRICH**  
SCRIPT

**TONY de ZUNIGA**

ART

**STEVE AUSTIN**

INKING

**TOM ORZECOWSKI, LETTERS  
BILL MANTLO, COLORS  
ROY THOMAS, EDITOR**

Read this story if  
you want to...

# "GET IT ALL TOGETHER"

...when you get out  
of the service

ONE DAY, A FEW MONTHS AFTER WE BOTH GOT  
OUT OF THE SERVICE, I RAN INTO MY OLD BUDDY, PETE.

PETE! HOW YOU  
MAKING OUT?

NOT TOO GOOD, JOE. I  
CAN'T SEEM TO HACK IT...  
NO JOB I CAN GET  
PAYS ANY  
MONEY.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE  
DOING ALL RIGHT,  
THOUGH.

I'LL SAY! I'M IN  
ELECTRONICS AND  
HAVE MY FCC LICENSE

ELECTRONICS!  
HOW'D YOU WORK  
THAT, JOE?

CIE, PETE! CIE  
HELPED ME LEARN  
ELECTRONICS ON MY  
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IT'S THE SCIENCE OF  
THE SEVENTIES, MAN.

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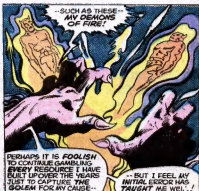
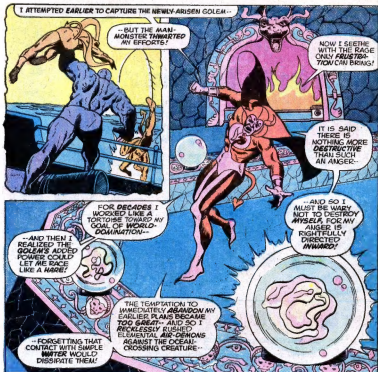
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THESE MYSTIC AGENTS ARE FAR LESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE OTHER ELEMENTS!

THOUGH THEY, TOO, MUST AVOID LARGE QUANTITIES OF WATER, THEY ACTUALLY THRIVE ON THE AIR--

--AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THEY CAN OVERWHELM THE EARTH-FORMED GOLEM WITH THEIR HEAT!

AT KABALLA'S COMMAND, THE FIRE-DEMONS SEEM TO MELT INTO THE FURNACE'S FLAMES--

--AND THEN DISAPPEAR!

LEAVING BEHIND THE OBSCENE THROTTLED CHUCKLE OF A MAN- VULTURE ABOUT TO DESCEND UPON HIS PREY!

MEANWHILE... OR ACTUALLY A FEW MINUTES EARLIER... AT SAN PEDRO UNIVERSITY IN ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA--

...YOUNG ARCHEOLOGIST WAYNE LOGAN IS OFFICIALLY PRESENTING HIS "FIND" FOR VERIFICATION OF ITS AUTHENTICITY.

HAS THE GOLEM MOVED AT ALL SINCE WE WERE PICKED UP ON THAT ISLAND, WAYNE?

NOT A MUSCLE, DEBBIE-- AND PROFESSOR YEATES IS RATHER SKEPTICAL OF US!

AND I HAVEN'T YET MENTIONED THE DEMONS WHO ATTACKED US!

HERE ARE THE RESULTS OF MY TESTS, PROF. YEATES!

SHRIMP! YES, MISS YAMAL... WELL, MAY WE BEGIN?

AS YOU KNOW, I BELIEVED THE LATE PROF. ADAMSON'S SEARCH FOR THE GOLEM WAS MORE FANATICAL THAN BASED ON SOLID FACT!

NOW HOW DO YOU TWO, VIRTUAL AMATEURS, HOPE TO CONVINCE ME THAT THIS... STATUE... IS MORE THAN A PILE OF CLAY?

WAIT A MINUTE, SIR--!

WHAT ARE SAUDIA YAMAL'S RESULTS?

PROF. YEATES, WAYNE MAY INDEED BE UNSCHOOLED IN OUR FIELD.

BUT HAVING MADE MY TESTS, I WILL STAKE MY DOCTORATE ON THE AUTHENTICITY OF THIS CREATURE!

THE CREATURE CAN BE... IS...

...ALIVE!



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IN FACT, SIR, WE'VE  
SEEN THE GOLEM  
ALIVE --  
THREE TIMES!

I DON'T BELIEVE  
IT, YOUNG MAN!  
THIS IS OBVIOUSLY  
A HOAX--ANOTHER  
VERITABLE  
PILTDOWN MAN!

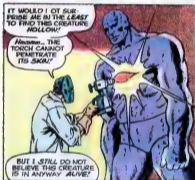
YOU ARE BEING, PERHAPS, A  
BIT... OVER-EMOTIONAL, DR. YEATES--  
AND NOT VERY SCIENTIFIC!



SCIENCE RESTS  
ON FACTS,  
MISS WALKER!

I'LL PROVE  
THE FALSITY  
OF YOUR  
FANCIFUL  
THEORIES  
MYSELF!

AND THE COMMITTEE  
APPROVING YOUR  
DOCTORAL DEGREE SHALL  
HEAR OF MY RESULTS!



IT WOULD! IT SUR-  
PRISE ME IN THE LEAST  
TO FIND THIS CREATURE  
HOLLOW!

Hmmm... THE  
TORCH CANNOT  
PENETRATE  
ITS SKIN!

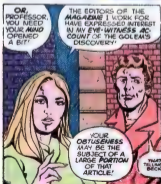
BUT I STILL DO NOT  
BELIEVE THIS CREATURE  
IS IN ANYWAY ALIVE!



PERHAPS IF YOU  
LOOKED CLOSELY  
AT MY TEST RESULTS,  
PROFESSOR!

LOOK AT THESE  
INDICATIONS  
OF...

ENOUGH!  
OBVIOUSLY YOU  
NEED MORE TESTS,  
YOUNG LADY!

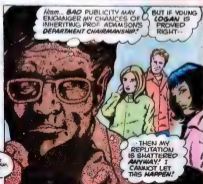


OR,  
PROFESSOR,  
YOU NEED  
YOUR MIND  
OPENED  
A BIT!

THE EDITORS OF THE  
MAGAZINE I WORK FOR  
HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST  
IN MY EYE-WITNESS AC-  
COUNT OF THE GOLEM'S  
DISCOVERY!

YOUR  
OBTUSENESS  
MAY BE THE  
SUBJECT OF A  
LARGE PORTION  
OF THAT  
ARTICLE!

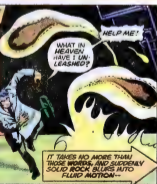
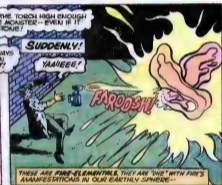
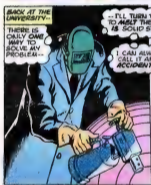
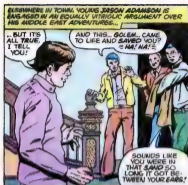
THAT'S  
TALKING FOR  
BACK!



Hmm... BAD PUBLICITY MAY  
ENDANGER MY CHANCES OF  
INHERITING PROF. ADAMSON'S  
DEPARTMENT CHAIRMANSHIP!

BUT IF YOUNG  
LOGAN IS PROVED  
RIGHT--

THEN MY  
REPUTATION  
IS SHATTERED  
ANYWAY! I  
CANNOT LET  
THIS HAPPEN!



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--AND  
ONCE AGAIN  
THE GOLEM  
WALKS THE  
EARTH!

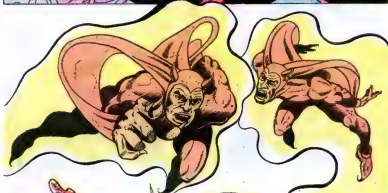
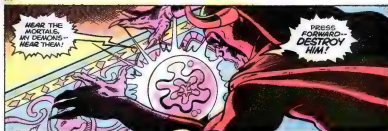
SHT-ZAM!

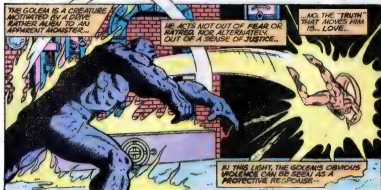
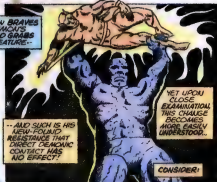
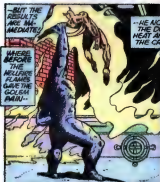
NOW DO YOU  
BELIEVE THEM,  
PROFESSOR?

"THE SKY ABOVE, THE PITS BELOW!" THAT'S THOR'S DESTINATION!









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## NOTES AND NEWS ON A NESTFUL OF NEBBISHES!

## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Boyl I was so long-winded last ish, telling you all about our mighty Marvel Calendar and the great new ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS, both of which ought to be on sale right about now, as well as our HITLER documentary mag, plus NOSTALGIA ILLUSTRATED, and the TREASURY OF SPIDER-MAN, that I promised Roy and the gang I'd stifle myself a little this time in order to leave them a few paragraphs to tell you about the zillion other wonderments from the hallowed halls of Marvel!

So, in order to give you a breather — and let the Bullpen carry the ball — I'll just take a minute to mention what a great time I had lecturing at the University of New Hampshire recently, and what a kick it was to receive the Popular Culture Association's Award of Excellence a few weeks ago in Milwaukee. You should have seen upwards of two thousand college students, professors, deans, and other dwellers in the rarified atmosphere of academia praising the merit and the miracle of Marveldom! Verily, 'twas a fate to remember! I can hardly tell you what a great source of satisfaction it is to know that, with your help, we've made the art of comic-books widely respected, universally accepted, and avidly acclaimed both here and overseas. Yep, I've gotta admit it — we're a great team, you and your bluishin' Bullpens!

And now, unless Iron Man finds a pin-up of Aunt May in Conan's footlocker, I promise to clue you in on what's happening with our latest pulse-pounding project — the feature-length, live-action Spider-Man movie now in preparation — the next time we meet!

Excelsior!



ITEM! We know it's a wee bit late, for those of you who've already picked up on our littin' lineup of 75¢ and \$1 magazines — and who hasn't? — but we thought we'd best clue you in officially: Ye Editor-in-Chief (that's ROY THOMAS, for you old-timers out there) has formally appointed a couple of new Editors to help him out with our ever-burgeoning titles. First there's Marvelous MARY WOLFMAN, who's being kept busy with DRACULA LIVES, VAMPIRE TALES, and our zestfully zany CRAZY Mag, while Roy himself keeps his hand in with SAVAGE TALES, SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, and our new science-fiction mag, the first issue of which (tentatively titled WORLDS UNKNOWN, Vol. 2, No. 1, last time we looked) should be on sale even as we speak! That leaves TONY "The Tiger" ISABELLA, aided and abetted by Cheerful CHRIS CLAREMONT, to preside over

the bulk (and we do mean bulk!) of black-and-white masterpieces. And wouldn't you know that, with no less than four guys working fulltime, there's still more than the poor guys and our overworked production staff can handle!

ITEM! Let's hear a hearty "Welcome Aboard!" for a contingent of dynamic new artists who hail from the far-off Philippines, and who're adapting by leaps and bounds to the Mighty Marvel style of dramatic storytelling! First, there's Tremendously-Talented TONY deZUNIGA, who's currently earning hordes of new fans illustrating tales of Dracula and the Golem, as well as embellishing the Ka-Zar epics in SAVAGE TALES. Next, there's Awesome ALFREDO ALCALA, already earning kudos in the pages of ZOMBIE, SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, and elsewhere (Alfredo, believe it or don't, pencils and inks some sixty pages per month of beautiful, finely-detailed artwork). Thirdly, there's Slamin' SONNY TRINIDAD, whose Morbus and Dracula stories soon will chill you to the marrow — and then there's Startling STEVE GAN, whose "Brak the Barbarian" sagas in SAVAGE TALES are setting sword-and-sorcery fandom on its collective ear! In addition, there are several other up-and-coming young artists who will soon be thrilling you in the pages of our back-and-white blockbusters — all presided over, at our Eastern-Hemispheric Branch, by Tony's ever-lovin' spouse MARY deZUNIGA, who keeps all those pandemonious pages moving across the wide Pacific. They're all knocking themselves out, so let them — and us — know how you feel about their efforts in the months to come, okay?

ITEM! Here's a hale-and-hearty hello to DAVID ANTHONY KRAFT (hereinafter referred to as DAVE), who's piped himself aboard to help Dauntless DON MCGREGOR proofread all our color comics. Not only is Dave a scripter to watch in his own write, as someone once said, but he's also a demon literary agent in his spare time! Don and Dave are backed up, in turn, by Roy's new Person Friday, Impish IRENE VARTANOFF, who's been active in fan circles for years and who's now overseeing our rhapsodic reprints and letters pages (when she isn't working on her Master's Thesis, that is — nobody rests at night among the batty Bullpens!). Like we said — welcome, one and all!

ITEM! It's not all unmitigated good news this month, though. Both DON HECK and GIL KANE's lovely wife ELAINE were in separate auto accidents, from which they're both recuperating (and doing nicely, we're overjoyed to say). Likewise, Lethal LARRY HAMA burned his fingers slightly in a freak electrical accident at the studio he shares with DICK GIORDANO, NEAL ADAMS, RALPH REESE, and others. Dick, Neal, et al, stepped in like troopers to help him finish off the current Iopa Fist episode

— for which thanks, both from us and from the legion of kung-fu fans the world over! (Wow! And you wondered why editors get gray hairs!)

ITEM! Anybody out there catch Big JIM HARMON, West-Coast Editor of our photo-filled MONSTERS OF THE MOVIES mag, on a recent edition of the NBC-TV show "Knowledge" — or else on a certain nationally-syndicated news program? It seems that, ever since we hired J.H. to edit the magazine, he's been simultaneously discovered by the media men of the land, as well! (Just keep pluggin' M.O.M., Jim — not that you need any hints from us!)

ITEM! Can't resist sneaking in a plug for our newest nutty nonsense mag — for those of you who've made CRAZY the toast of the town (mainly, Hoboken, New Jersey). This one's for those of you who like your humor flavored with a touch of the macabre — a hint of the horrible — a pinch of the mysterious. And — are you ready for this? — the name of our new chill-and-chuckles sensation is ... ARRGH! (No, Irving, that's not our reaction to it; that's the title: ARRGH! Pick up a copy today — and go ARRGH yourself! "Nuff said!

Just a last-minute reminder that the MIGHTY MARVEL CALENDAR FOR 1975 is just going on sale in real live bookstores from coast to coast! We think you'll find it \$3.95 well-spent (how's that for soft sell). But, you know muddled-up Marvel: we always have to let a typo or two sneak thru, just to give you something to hunt for. So, we'll offer a shiny new no-prize to the first dozen Calendar purchasers who spot which day of the year is accidentally printed twice (while one day was omitted entirely). No fair finding other boobies, now — you know how insecure we get!

ITEM! That's all we've got room for on this page — but there's an extra item or three on our Bullpen Bonus Page, elsewhere in this issue. We wouldn't want you to think we've been idle now, would we? See you there, Marvelphiles!

# MARVEL COMICS!

WE'RE NUMBER ONE  
--BUT WE  
**STILL**  
TRY HARDER!



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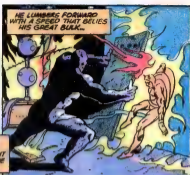
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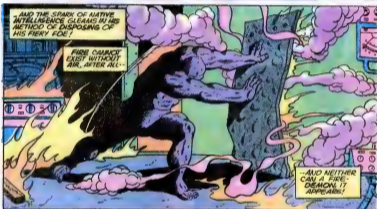


...WHILE IN MORE MACHIAVELLIAN POWER-TERMS,  
THE GOLEM HAS BECOME VIRTUALLY  
UNSTOPPABLE!

HIS HEIGHTENED  
AWARENESS HAS  
BROUGHT A SIGNIFICANT  
INCREASE IN RESISTANCE  
AND STRENGTH!



HE LUNGES FORWARD  
WITH A SPEED THAT BELIES  
HIS GREAT BULK...



AND THE SPARK OF NATIVE  
INTELLIGENCE GLEAMS IN HIS  
METHOD OF DISPOSING OF  
HIS FIERY FOE!

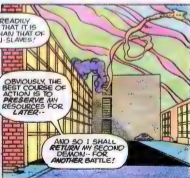
FIRE CANNOT  
EXIST WITHOUT  
AIR, AFTER ALL--

--AND NEITHER  
CAN A FIRE-  
DEMON. IT  
APPEARS!



ONCE AGAIN, IN THE MIDST  
OF BATTLE, THE GOLEM  
HAS FOUND A NEW  
RESERVOIR OF POWER--

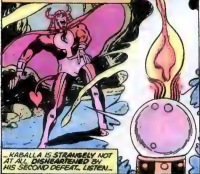
--AND IT IS READILY  
APPARENT THAT IT IS  
GREATER THAN THAT OF  
MY DEMON-SLAVES!



OBVIOUSLY, THE  
BEST COURSE OF  
ACTION IS TO  
PRESERVE MY  
RESOURCES FOR  
LATER--

AND SO I SHALL  
RETURN MY SECOND  
DEMON-- FOR  
ANOTHER BATTLE!

AS THE FIRE-DEMON RETURNS TO ITS PREVIOUSLY MINATURE STATE...



KABALLA IS STRANGELY NOT AT ALL DISHEARTENED BY HIS SECOND DEFEAT. LISTEN...

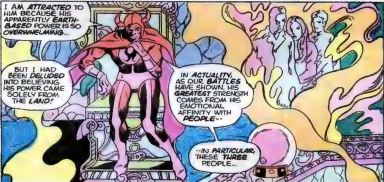
MY LOSSES HAVE BEEN MINIMAL FOR I HAVE FOUND THE KEY TO WINNING MY WAR...

A WEAK LINK IN THE GOLEM'S ARMOR--

...OF WHICH THE CREATURE IS NOT AWARE!



I AM ATTRACTED TO HIM BECAUSE HIS APPARENTLY EARTH-BASED POWER IS SO OVERWHELMING...



BUT I HAD BEEN DELUDED INTO BELIEVING HIS POWER CAME SOLELY FROM THE LAND!

IN ACTUALITY, AS OUR BATTLES HAVE SHOWN, HIS GREATEST STRENGTH COMES FROM HIS EMOTIONAL AFFINITY WITH PEOPLE...

...IN PARTICULAR, THESE THREE PEOPLE...

AND OF COURSE THE BEST WAY TO ACT ON MY INSIGHT IS TO UNDERCUT THE GOLEM'S POWER BY SWIFTLY DESTROYING THE THREE...

--BEGINNING WITH THIS JASON ADAMSON!

HOT SPOT! I FOUND WHAT I WANTED--RIGHT HERE IN UNCLE ABIE'S BOOKS!

I'LL SHOW THOSE GUYS! NOBODY'LL MESS WITH ME NOW!

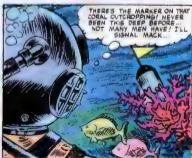
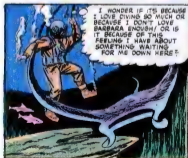


NOTICE:

SEE THE  
DRAMATIC ANNOUNCE-  
MENT ON OUR LETTERS  
PAGE CONCERN-  
ING THE SHATTER-  
ING FATE OF  
**THE GOLEM!**







HE SIGNALLED THE OTHER DIVER WHILE HE CONTACTED THE SHIP ABOVE THROUGH HIS HELMET MICROPHONE...



WE'RE ON THE BOTTOM AND WE'VE FOUND OUR MARKERS! WE'RE GOING TO LAY THE DYNAMITE NOW! BE READY TO HAUL UP AT THE SIGNAL!



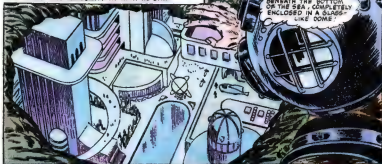
HAVE TO SCRAPE THIS STUFF TO PLANT THE DYNAMITE IN...

THAT'S FUNNY! NEVER SAW A SUBSTANCE LIKE THIS UNDER THE SEA! LOOKS AND FEELS LIKE GLASS... SMOOTH...



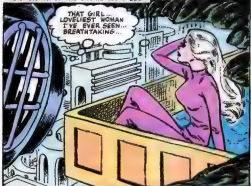
SOMETHING DOWN THERE BENEATH IT!

HE BENT AND PEERED INTO THE GLASS-LIKE SUBSTANCE... THEN FROZE INTO IMMOBILITY AT WHAT HE SAW!



A BEAUTIFUL CITY, BENEATH THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, COMPLETELY ENCLOSED IN A GLASS-LIKE DOME!

HIS RANGE OF VISION WAS LIMITED BY THE VISOR CIRCLE OF HIS HELMET, HE TURNED HIS HEAD A BIT AND A BALCONY CAME INTO VIEW, CLOSER THAN ANY OTHER PORTION OF THE CITY HE COULD SEE...



THAT GIRL... LOVELIEST WOMAN I'VE EVER SEEN... BREATHTAKING...

SUDDENLY, THE GIRL'S HEAD TURNED AND OVER THE DISTANCE THE EYES MET, AND A MESSAGE SEEMED TO COME TO HIM FROM THOSE GLOWING EYES SET IN THAT FACE, LOVELY BEYOND COMPARISON...



# BULLPEN BONUS PAGE! (WHAT ELSE?)

JUST ROOM FOR A FEW QUICKIES:

**ITEM!** Ever wonder why one writer or artist gives up a feature to another? Well, here's a case in point: At almost the same time recently that STEVE (Baby) GERBER got an overwhelming urge to write our DEFENDERS spectacular, it seems that Live-It-Up LEN WEIN got a similar itch to script a lone-wolf superhero like DAREDEVIL. The first Ye Editor knew of it was when the pair marched into my office in tandem and said they'd like to trade books for a while; I figured each of 'em would bring a new and infectious enthusiasm to already-popular mags, so I okayed the deal. Ditto with Len and Merry GERRY CONWAY, who're trading writing chores on FANTASTIC FOUR and MARVEL TEAM-UP, mainly so that Ger can handle virtually all of the many Spider-Man pages which are unleashed by the House of Marvel every month. (All, that is, except those which are scripted by an obscure newcomer named JEANIE THOMAS — no relation to Ye Editor, except by marriage — for our nefarious new title, SPIDEY SUPER STORIES, published in conjunction with TV's Electric Company, big brother to Sesame Street!)

**ITEM!** It's the hit of fandom — in just one earth-shattering issue! Ordinarily, that's the kind of remark we'd be making about a single new title, right? But,

in this case, it's equally true of both of our new one-dollar wonders, PLANET OF THE APES and THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN! Already, the artistry of PLOOG, TUSKA, and MOENCH is being hailed by gorillaphiles the world over; already, our swarthy Cimmarian (as interpreted by BUSCEMA, SMITH, and the like) has gained a new Hyborian Legion of enthusiastic admirers! And, with the second issues of these wondrous winners — now on sale — there can no longer be any doubt. It's the Marvel Age of Magazines as well as the Marvel Age of Comics! (And, if you're still nagged by any last, lingering doubts, just sneak a peak at what BUSCEMA and company are doing in SAVAGE TALES — at our steel-fisted DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU title, which is already going monthly by unprecedented popular demand — at our currently-debating science fiction \$1 mag which you've clamored for, long and loud — at our widely-acclaimed adaptation of Bram Stoker's classic novel in DRACULA LIVES — at Satana and at Gabriel, Devil-Hunter, in the pages of HAUNT OF HORROR — and at all the way-out wonderment in mags like ZOMBIE, VAMPIRE TALES, CRAZY, MONSTERS UNLEASHED, MONSTERS OF THE MOVIES, etc., etc., etc., and maybe you'll get what we're driving at!) See you next month, ol' buddy!

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THEN THE ROPE'S JERKED HIM VIOLENTLY AWAY AND UP, AND A VOICE RASPED THROUGH THE RECEIVER IN HIS HELMET...

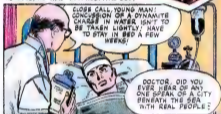


JONAS, WHY DIDN'T YOU SIGNAL? WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? MACK'S CHARGE IS READY TO GO OFF ANY SECOND! HANG ON!



ONLY THE OLD LEGENDS ABOUT LOST ATLANTIS! STRANGE HOW THAT LEGEND PERSISTS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS! NEVER DIES OUT!

THE NEXT TIME JONAS OPENED HIS EYES, HE WAS IN A HOSPITAL BED!

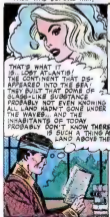


CLOSE CALL, YOUNG MAN! CONCUSSION OF A DYNAMITE CHARGE IN WATER ISN'T TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY! HAVE TO STAY IN BED A FEW WEEKS!

DOCTOR, DID YOU EVER HEAR OF ANY ONE SPEAK OF A CITY BENEATH THE SEA WITH REAL PEOPLE?



DURING THOSE WEEKS OF CONVALESCENCE, JONAS READ ALL HE COULD FIND ABOUT THE FAILED LOST ATLANTIS... AND ALWAYS AWAKE OR ASLEEP, THAT LOVELY FACE WAS BEFORE HIM!



THAT'S WHAT IT IS... LOST ATLANTIS! THE CONTINENT THAT DISAPPEARED INTO THE SEA! THEY BUILT THAT DOME OF GLASS-LIKE SUBSTANCE PROBABLY NOT EVEN KNOWING ALL LAND HADN'T GONE UNDER THE WAVES... AND THE INHABITANTS OF TODAY PROBABLY DON'T KNOW THERE IS SUCH A THING AS LAND ABOVE THEM!

WHEN JONAS BECAME WELL AGAIN, HE BOUGHT A BOAT AND A SKIN-DIVER'S OUTFIT! IMMEDIATELY, HE BEGAN TO SEARCH FOR LOST ATLANTIS AND THE GIRL BEHIND THE GLASS...

THIS IS WHAT ALWAYS BECKONED ME! I WAS DESTINED TO FIND LOST ATLANTIS AND THAT LOVELY GIRL! THE DYNAMITE CHARGE COVERED THE SPOT I HAD CLEARED...



TIME AFTER TIME, HE DIVED! THE PRESSURE OF THE DEPTHS WAS TREMENDOUS, BUT HE KEPT ON SEARCHING AND FINALLY...



A HOLE! THE BLAST MACK SET MUST'VE DONE THIS! I WON'T HAVE TO BLAST! IT MIGHT LEAD TO THE WORLD OF LOST ATLANTIS THAT IS BENEATH WHAT WE CALL THE SEA BOTTOM!

HOW DOES A MAN FIGHT HIS OWN NIGHTMARE? DON'T MISS MAN-THING #12!



THERE IT IS... IN A SEA BELOW THE SEA! I'LL HAVE TO SCOUT AROUND, AND SEE IF I CAN FIND AN OPENING IN THE GLASS GLOBE!

BY SHEERST LUCK, JONAS FOUND A PORTAL IN A FEW MINUTES... AND FOUND THE GIRL WHO HAD NEVER LEFT HIS THOUGHTS!



IT'S HER! SHE SEES ME! SHE'S COMING TOWARD ME! PROBABLY TO WELCOME ME TO THE CITY! SHE'S SWIMMING RIGHT INTO MY ARMS!

HIS HEART BEAT FASTER AS SHE APPROACHED, SWIMMING WITH GRACEFUL MOTIONS! HE SWAM EAGERLY TO MEET HER...



HER HAIR STREAMED BACK AND HE WAS CLOSE... CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE THE GILL SLITS IN HER NECK, THE ABSENCE OF EARS...



SHE... SHE'S HUGE! I COULDN'T GUESS SIZE WHEN I FIRST SAW HER! SHE MUST BE EIGHT FEET TALL... AND GILL SLITS...

DISMAY RAN THROUGH HIM WHEN HE SAW THE WEBBED FEET AND HANDS AND THE SCALES THAT COVERED HER! THEN SHE OPENED HER MOUTH AND HE SAW THE SHARK'S TEETH... AND THEN HE KNEW...

HE SHOT THROUGH THE HOLE UP TO THE SEA BOTTOM...



THE DYNAMITE... I'VE GOT TO BLAST THIS HOLE SHUT! THOSE CREATURES MUST NEVER KNOW THAT ABOVE THEM IS LAND... THE LAND FROM WHICH THEY ORIGINALLY CAME!

QUICKLY HE SET THE CHARGE, THEN SWAM UPWARD WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH TO THE BLESSED AIR AND LAND! JUST AS HE REACHED THE SURFACE HE FELT AND HEARD THE SHOCK AND EXPLOSION!



I'M NEVER GOING DOWN AGAIN... AND AS SOON AS I REACH SHORE, I'M GOING TO SEARCH FOR BARBARA AND TELL HER! I'M THROUGH DYING!



SHE'S A SEA CREATURE... AND SHE DIDN'T COME TO WELCOME ME! SHE'S HUNTING ME! I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE HOLE... GET OUT OF HERE!

# LETTERS TO THE GOLEM

1/6 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. 10022

## SPECIAL BULLPEN NOTE:

File it under "G."

"G" for "Good idea that didn't work out."

"G" for GOLEM.

"G" for "Good-bye."

This issue marks the last appearance in **STRANGE TALES** of our kasher hunk of clay. After three tries, and despite the awesome creative efforts of Len Wein, Mike Friedrich, John Buscema, and Tony DeZuniga— not to mention the inkers, letterers, colorists, and a certain editor named Thomas— our **GOLEM** strip just hasn't become what we hoped it would. For lots of reasons:

Deadline hassles caused us to miss one issue, forcing us to replace it with reprints, disrupting the story continuity, and causing no little loss of morale and inspiration on the part of our creative team.

Then, too, we never quite found ourselves able to decide on a direction for the strip. Was it a human-interest book like **MAN-THING**? A smasho-whammo-destructo book like **THE HULK**? A supernatural mystery thriller like **WEREWOLF BY NIGHT**? We just couldn't make up our minds.

Thus, even with an open-ended plotline and too much left unexplained, we've decided to call things to a halt. We goofed. It's not the first time. It won't be the last. (But it may be the only time we're gonna be so shamefacedly candid about it, so savor these words, pilgrim!)

So now you're wondering what's going to appear in **STRANGE TALES** #178, right?

Not if you've glanced at the right-hand column of this page, you're not!

Okay. So he's not Jewish. So he may even have started his own religion on a certain doppelganger of earth on the far side of the sun. So are you going to hold that against the one and only...**ADAM WARLOCK**?


We didn't think so. Nor do we deeply believe that his triumphal return next issue to a new, regular series in these pages will be disappointing news to the masses of Marveldom.

That's right. **THE POWER OF WARLOCK** returns in just sixty days—written and drawn by none other than **JIM STARLIN**! Jim's spent months in the preparation of this issue, which begins a new, innovative, and totally mind-boggling storyline for our gold-skinned wielder of the soul-jewel. You'll see Adam out among the stars, fighting a kind of menace that is completely new to comics— a daring, controversial concept that may outrage you, may amuse you, may give you pause to stop and wonder about every belief you hold dear. But we guarantee, whatever else **S.T. # 178** does, it is *not* going to bore you!

So be here. Sixty days from today. When jumpin' Jim Starlin and **WARLOCK** come blazing back into Marveldom in all their glory! If you miss this one, friend, you will never forgive yourself! (And we won't be too thrilled with you, either! Stash away that quarter now!)

Excelsior!





**NO--YOU'RE *Not* SEEING THINGS--**  
**LILITH, DAUGHTER OF DRACULA**  
*MAKES HER SOUL-SHATTERING DEBUT in*  
*THE NEXT MIND-MANGLING ISSUE OF*  
**DRACULA LIVES!**

**ALSO!** THE FEAR-FRAUGHT ADVENTURES OF LILITH'S OLD MAN IN THREE AWESOME TALES OF TERROR! **INCLUDING** THE LATEST CHAPTER IN OUR CONTINUING ADAPTATION OF **BRAM STOKER'S CLASSIC NOVEL** AND MORE! ALL FANGING YOUR WAY ON **NOVEMBER 5TH!**

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